



March 3, 2016

Senator Dale Zorn  
Chairman, Senate Local Government  
Farnum Building, Room 710  
P. O. Box 30036  
Lansing, Michigan 48909

Robert R. Nix, *Supervisor*  
Sue A. Hillebrand, *Clerk*  
Marjorie F. Banner, *Treasurer*  
Marvin Gans, *Trustee*  
Symantha Heath, *Trustee*  
Mindy Herrmann, *Trustee*  
Fred Shadko, *Trustee*

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Subject: HB 5163

Dear Senator Zorn,

I am writing in support of **HB5163** introduced recently by Representative Heise and passed by the House on February 10, 2016. As you may be aware the former DeHoCo prison property is located immediately south of Northville Township's southern border across Five Mile Road in Plymouth Township. Northville Township, Plymouth Township, Rep. Heise's office, Senator Colbeck's office, Wayne County and a variety of other agencies are actively engaged in an economic development initiative to repurpose nearly 800 acres of primarily former prison properties to which the 100 acre+ DeHoCo site is integral. Collectively this land, under multiple jurisdictions, is branded the Michigan International Technology Center (MITC).

This blighted, contaminated DeHoCo former state prison property is a clear impediment to this joint planning and marketing effort. While I am encouraged that the state has taken the necessary steps to transfer the land to the Land Bank, it is, in turn imperative that the Land Bank be provided the necessary resources to commence demolition and environmental cleanup.

Northville Township has been very successful in attracting some of the top global transportation engineering firms, but our ability to continue that momentum is limited by the availability of land as platforms suitable for new high tech development. Passing HB5163 is a critical step in the process of bringing additional investment and employment to the area. As such, I would respectfully request that the necessary hearing be held and steps be taken to enact this legislature as expeditiously as possible.

Charter Township of Northville

Robert R. Nix, Supervisor

cc: Representative Kurt Heise  
Senator Pat Colbeck